

## PATENT

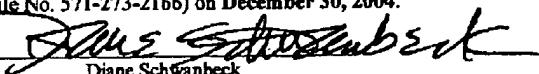
## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: ) Docket No. KYWAP006  
Kazuhito GASSHO et al. ) Examiner: W. Hamdan  
Application No. 10/722,693 ) Group Art Unit: 2854  
Filed: November 24, 2003 ) Date: December 30, 2004  
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Before examination on the merits, please amend this application as follows:

**The Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**The Amendments to the Claims** made herein are reflected in the **Listing of Claims**, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Applicants' Remarks** begin on page 20 of this paper.

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**Pages Including Cover Sheet:** 22

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**RECEIVER:** Examiner Wasseem H. Hamdan  
Group Art Unit 2854

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**Message:**

See attached Preliminary Amendment (21 pages).